



## Another Day in Futile Battle against the 2nd Law

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**ANOTHER DAY IN FUTILE BATTLE AGAINST THE 2<sup>nd</sup> LAW, Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown curated by J. Baker, Oct 16**



*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law, (Ursa Major), installation shot gallery 1, mixed media, dimensions variable*

*The Second Law of Thermodynamics States that whenever energy is transformed from one form to another form, entropy increases and energy decreases.*

The work for this exhibition falls under the 2nd law. O'Beirn used sculptural means to try to understand spatial relationships and physical properties of the stars whilst attempting to come to grips with the inevitable slide from order to chaos. The work, developed through over a year of dialogue with and support from astronomers from Armagh Observatory and Planetarium, consists of a sculptural installation and some new animations pieces, all of which explore in different ways how a lay-person struggles to understand scientific concepts. The installation explores stellar distances by spatially imagining the constellation the Great Bear, using precariously balanced and placed found objects.

The animation *Vastness (Meteor Showers)* is a reflection on time and the nature of predictable and unpredictable events. The animation, *Slices of Time (some questions)*, tracks conversations on subjects ranging from infinity, inflation the big bang and stellar distributions with astronomer Simon Jeffery.

The show opened up contemporary artwork to new audiences in the scientific community. There were a series of events and workshops aimed at schools, colleges and the interested public, which Millennium Court developed around this show.

With special thanks to Emeritus Prof. Mark Bailey and to Simon Jeffery of Armagh Observatory. Sound track for *Vastness (Meteor Showers)* Boris Völt, courtesy of TONN Recordings.



*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law, (Uma Upsillion)*





*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law, Uma*



*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law, (Uma Mizar and Alcor)*





*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law, (Uma Theta)*



*Deep Field*, A1 posters edition of 500



*Vastness (Meteor Showers)* still, HD Video 14 min 24 sec Sound track Boris Völt, courtesy TONN Recordings

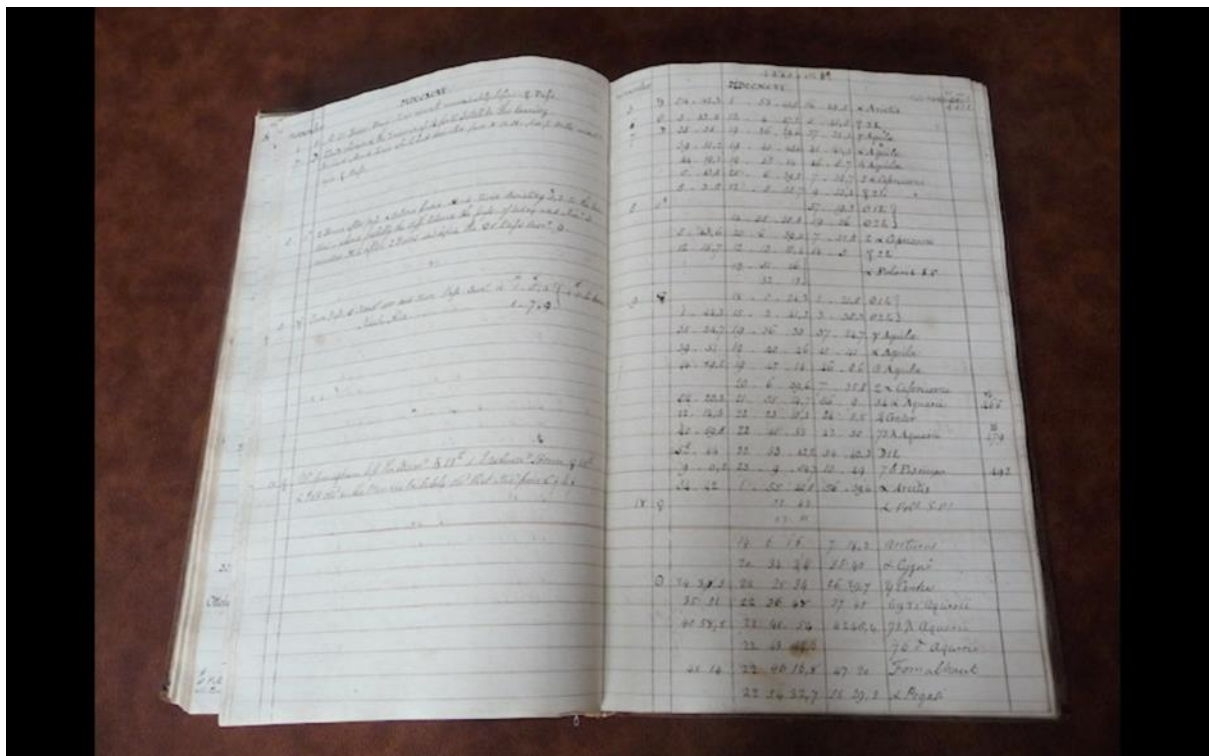


*Slices of Time (some questions)* HD Video, 10 min 50 sec, with thanks to S. Jeffery Armagh Observatory and Planetarium





*Slices of Time (some questions)* HD Video, 10 min 50 sec, with thanks to S. Jeffery Armagh Observatory and Planetarium



*Transit*, video, 1 min 10 sec, with thanks to John McFarland Armagh Observatory and Planetarium



Visitors examining *Deep Field* with magnifying glass



*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2nd Law, invitation*





Aisling O'Beirn: Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2nd Law  
8 October – 23 November 2016

**Public talk by Professor Mark Bailey:**

**Friday 28 October, 11-12 noon, FREE**

**Public Talk:** "Earth's Place in Space: Discovering Humanity's Shared Celestial Heritage" by Professor Mark E. Bailey, Emeritus Director of Armagh Observatory Friday 28 October, 11-12 noon. For more information contact [lisa@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:lisa@millenniumcourt.org) / [jackie@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:jackie@millenniumcourt.org)

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BT62 3NX [info@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:info@millenniumcourt.org), 0044 2838 394415 [Registered Charity:  
XR28053]

*Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2nd Law*, invitation to public talk by Emeritus Prof Mark Bailey



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## **Explore your imagination and expand your experience of the world with our educational workshops!**

In conjunction with the guidelines advised by the NI curriculum in respect of the arts, MCAC aims to deliver a highly stimulating and engaging education programme that encourages the development of creative skills. A gallery provides an environment in which a child feels comfortable to observe, question, respond and experiment while our workshops endeavour to bring together core elements of the syllabus along side contemporary educational methods such as experiential learning, connected learning and learning through play



## Aisling O'Beirn: Another Day in Futile Battle Against the 2nd Law

The work for this exhibition falls under the 2nd law. It consists of a sculptural installation and some new animations pieces, all of which explore in different ways how a lay-person struggles to understand scientific concepts. It has been made with the support of Armagh Observatory and Planetarium. The installation explores stellar distances by spatially imagining the constellation the Great Bear, using precariously balanced and placed found objects. The animation Overwhelming (Meteor Showers) is a reflection on time and the nature of predictable and unpredictable events. The animation, Slices of Time (some questions), tracks conversations on subjects ranging from infinity, inflation the big bang and stellar distributions with astronomer Simon Jeffery.

With special thanks to Emeritus Prof. Mark Bailey and to Simon Jeffery of Armagh Observatory.

Public Talk: "Earth's Place in Space: Discovering Humanity's Shared Celestial Heritage" by Professor Mark E. Bailey, Emeritus Director of Armagh Observatory Friday 28 October, 11-12 noon. For more information contact [lisa@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:lisa@millenniumcourt.org) / [jackie@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:jackie@millenniumcourt.org)

About: Aisling O' Beirn is an artist based in Belfast whose current sculptural work is concerned with exploring space as a physical structure and a political entity by making and animating forms relating to observed and theoretical structures being studied by contemporary astronomers and physicists. Projects have investigated ideas around entropy order, disorder and balance and how laypersons try to understand scientific and mathematical ideas. Recent work has been facilitated by Armagh Observatory and Dunsink Observatory. She has exhibited nationally and internationally. She was included in Northern Ireland's first participation in the 51st Venice Biennale. Her work manifests variously as sculpture, installation, animation and site-specific projects. [www.aislingobeirn.com](http://www.aislingobeirn.com)

### **Workshops for all ages**

(Each workshop will be accompanied by a tour of the exhibition.)

#### **Nursery & key stage 1:**

##### **(Workshop 1) - Scientific explosions of Colour**

Taking inspiration from the exhibition – join the MCAC Education Team as we explore and experiment through applying powder and liquid for a chemical reaction that explodes with bursts of colour. Then use elements and colour mixes to see how to create magnificent prints.



**Key stage 2 & 3:****(Workshop 2) - Recreate a constellation – string and pin art**

After touring the exhibition, participants will work in groups to visually recreate some of the most renowned star constellations through the use of large-scale projections, with pin and string designed pieces using grid techniques combining links between science, maths and art.

**GCSE & A-Level:****(Workshop 3) - Spatial Sculptures**

Drawing inspiration from the sculptures of Alexander Calder (August 22, 1898 – November 11, 1976 an American sculptor known as the originator of the mobile) and working in groups participants will create spatial awareness sculpture made with delicately balanced or suspended shapes. These will be based on the concepts within the content of the exhibition.

Whilst we believe it is vital for every person to experience a gallery visit, we do take into consideration the needs of all schools and community groups with all of the above workshops being available as both an in-reach (£3pp) and outreach (£4pp) capacity.

If you would like to arrange a time for a group visit or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Hazel or Johnny at MCAC on **028 3839 4415** or e-mail [education@millenniumcourt.org](mailto:education@millenniumcourt.org).

**Get involved in the arts:** MCAC also offers workshops and activities catered to the needs of your group or can help with a your own arts projects. The cost will differ depending on materials and facilitation requirements. If you have any ideas for a workshops and activities or need help with a your own arts projects please let us know.

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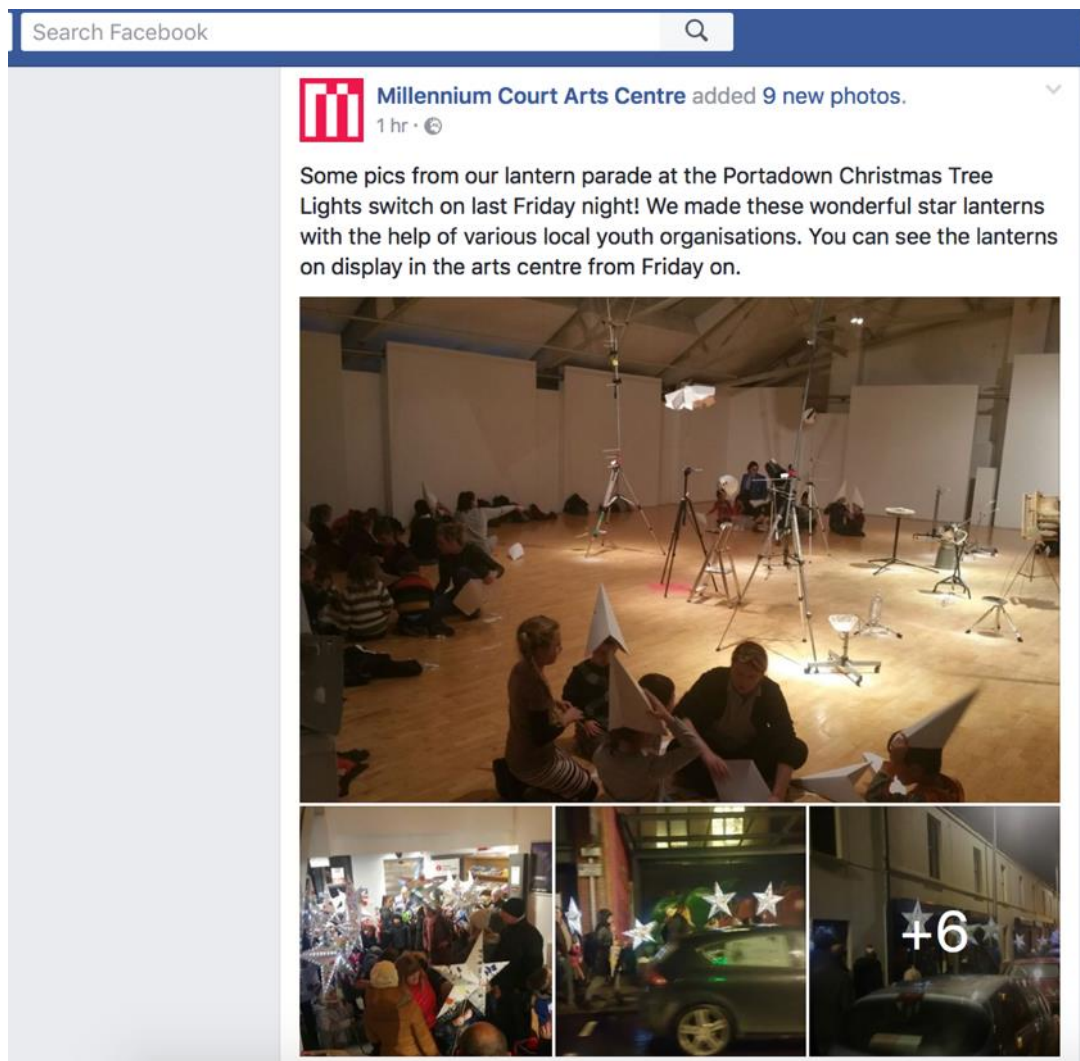
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Armagh City  
Banbridge  
& Craigavon  
Borough Council



LOTTERY FUND



Millennium Court Arts Centre images online of workshop events Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016 relating to *Another Day in Futile Battle*



Millennium Court Arts Centre Lantern parade workshop event relating to *Another Day in Futile Battle*





Millennium Court Lantern parade event 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 2016 from *Another Day in Futile Battle* workshops



# Millennium Court Arts Centre *Another Day in Futile Battle*

## AUDIENCE FIGURES

Opening 07/10/16	51
Symposium 28/10/16	21
St John The Baptist Workshop 08/11/16	35
Seagoe Youth Workshop	63
Total Audience Figures	2134

# Millennium Court Arts Centre *Another Day in Futile Battle*

## BUDGET

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	<b>PROJECTED SPEND - FORMAL VISUAL PROGRAMME APR 2016 to MAR 2017</b>					
2						
3		<b>Oct- Nov</b>				
4		Gallery 1&2				
5		<b>Aisling O'Beirn</b>	<b>TOTAL SPENT</b>	<b>TOTAL Available</b>		
6						
7	<b>Artists Costs</b>	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,150.00	-£ 150.00		
8	<b>Residency</b>			£ -		
9	<b>Production of Work</b>			£ -		
10	<b>Exhibition Costs</b>	£ 1,000.00	£ -	£ 1,000.00		
11	<b>Volunteer Expenses</b>	£ -		£ -		
12	<b>Publicity/Marketing</b>	£ 500.00	£ 757.00	-£ 257.00		
13	<b>Catering/Merchandising</b>	£ 150.00	£ 249.43	-£ 99.43		
14	<b>Transportation</b>			£ -		
15	<b>Travel/Accommodation</b>			£ -		
16	<b>Equipment/Materials</b>	£ 850.00	£ 788.37	£ 61.63		
17	<b>6 Other (hire, exhib fee, catalogue, symposium)</b>	£ 500.00	£ 500.00	£ -	Armagh Observatory In kind	
18				£ -		
19	<b>TOTAL</b>	£ 4,000.00	£ 3,444.80	£ 555.20		
20						
21	<b>INCOME</b>					
22	<b>ACBC Grant earmarked</b>			£ -		
23	<b>MCAC Partnership</b>			£ -		
24	<b>Other (Touring Venue)</b>			£ -		
25	<b>Other(RHA)</b>			£ -		
26	<b>Southern Regional College</b>			£ -		
27	<b>Other (Sky)</b>			£ -		
28	<b>Other (In Kind)</b>	£ 500.00		£ 500.00		
29	<b>Income</b>			£ -		
30	<b>AFP</b>	£ 3,500.00		£ 3,500.00		
31	<b>TOTAL</b>	£ 4,000.00		£ 4,000.00		
32						